



Maricopa County Animal Care and Control



Trailin' Tails Newsletter

Grooming Saves Lives



One of the MCACC dogs who needed a home. She got her forever home!

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Every year, more than 46,000 dogs and cats come to Maricopa County Animal Care and Control (MCACC). Some of them look like they came right from a home where they were well cared for. Others come in looking like they need a bath. And then there are the ones who come in looking very ragged, with clumped overgrown fur.

Overgrown, matted fur is not only unsightly and smelly, it is quite painful to the dog. It pulls on the skin, can cause inflammation and severe discomfort.

Dogs that come to the shelter that are in desperate need of a grooming and do not receive one, tend to get overlooked for adoption.

It is hard to see the personality underneath a dirty, matted coat of smelly fur. Perfectly wonderful dogs sit in the shelter being ignored due to their appearance.

Occasionally, a potential adopter looks past the temporary appearance into their eyes and sees the wonderful dog underneath all that hair. Unfortunately, not enough people do this.

MCACC would love to be able to bathe and groom every dog that comes into our care.

However there isn't time to help all the animals who need a makeover.

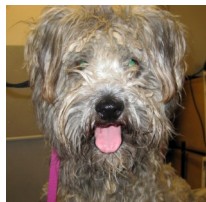
Thankfully, MCACC has a few wonderful people who volunteer to groom the animals that are in need. They arrive with their tools of the trade and set to work.

The groomers introduce themselves to the dog first so the dog is comfortable. The dog then gets shaved, clipped, bathed and dried. With each step, a new dog, sometimes with a dramatic personality change, emerges through the process.

Dogs that were once shy are now full of love. Dogs that were once snappy are now jumping up for attention. Dogs that shied away from a hand are now nuzzling an arm to be petted.

More animals are in need of grooming than our volunteers can keep up with. If you are a groomer, or know of a groomer who wants to donate their time to help the personalities of our dogs shine through, please let us know.

Contact our Volunteer Coordinator at: spinelles@mail.maricopa.gov or call her at (602) 506-8133.





One of the many dogs that have come through our doors needing a new home—she got one!

Dangerous Foods for your pet

Mushrooms

Chocolate

Macadamia Nuts

Grapes

Raisins

Onions

Garlic

Avocados

Candy

Fatty Foods

Salt

Coffee (any caffeine)

Alcohol

Veterinarian's Corner : The Importance of Sterilization

In this issue, Dr. Durgin discusses some common myths about sterilization and the health benefits associated with it.

People have a variety of opinions about sterilization. Let's tackle some of the myths:

Stunts growth- long bone growth plates are stimulated to close by reproductive hormones- sterilizing removes the major source of these hormones so growth plates stay open longer meaning that the pet grows for a longer period of time (up to ½ inch based on some research done with shelter animals in New York).

Changes personality: social maturity occurs between 12-18 months of age- so there is a coincidental relationship with sterilization if done at 6-12 months. Animals that get sterilized younger still go thru this maturity.

Makes the pet fat: Sterilization decreases caloric needs from 30 cal/pound to 15 calories/pound (incidentally this is the average number of calories a person should be consuming) once the animal has attained its adult size. Most dog food bags have calorie recommendations for intact (not sterilized) animals though there are a few foods out now for the sterilized/indoor animal with correct calorie guides on the packaging.

On the other hand, there are a myriad of health benefits of sterilization:

Decreases roaming

Decreases caloric requirements

Increases life span

Decreases risk of reproductive tract cancers

Decreases aggressiveness (but does not eliminate it)

Decreases territorial marking behavior

No unwanted litters

Eliminates heat cycles

Please spay and neuter your pets. In Maricopa County alone, we see more than 10,000 unwanted puppies and kittens come into the shelter every year.



The Veterinarian's Corner is written by Dr. Monika Durgin, MCACC's Chief Veterinarian.

I'M A FOREVER DOG

I'm not an "until you get bored with me" dog.
 I'm not an "until you find a girlfriend" dog.
 I'm not an "until you have a baby" dog.
 I'm not an "until you have no time" dog.
 I'm not an "until you move" dog.
 I'm not an "until I get old" dog.



I'm a forever dog.
 If you can't give me forever,
 then I'm not the dog for you.
 It's that simple!



One of the many cats MCACC has taken in needing a forever home.

Another Microchip Helps a Dog Get Home

MCACC received the following letter from a grateful family:
 "We found Dulce in 2006 wandering the streets of Florence. We brought her to Pinal County Animal Control but after a week no one had claimed her, so we spayed her, micro-chipped her, and brought her back to our house. We already had 2 dogs and a cat so we found a new home for her (or so we thought).

Last Friday we got a call from MCACC that she was found again, and the only identification was the microchip, still registered to us. We don't understand why her owners didn't come for her or take better care of her. She is thin and has been through difficult times, but is still a beautiful and affectionate dog. We are glad to have her come home with us, this time forever. Thanks for finding her and calling us!"



Spay and neuter your pets

Get your dogs and cats spayed or neutered! MCACC takes in over 46,000 animals a year, many of them unwanted kittens and puppies. These innocent animals have little chance of survival in our shelters—they need too much care. Please help us stop unnecessary euthanasia—spay and neuter your pets!

Please visit us on the web at:
www.pets.maricopa.gov
 for more information.



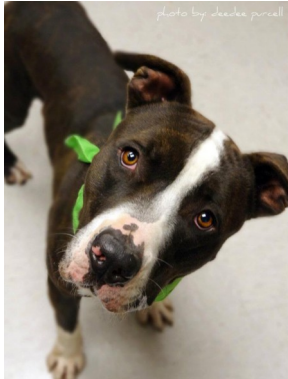
Visit our Pet Adoption Centers:

PetSmart Adoption Center

4380 N. Miller Road, Scottsdale

Under One Woof

9617 N. Metro Pkwy #1116,
 Phoenix



MCACC took in over 46,000 dogs and cats last year. Please give one a good home!



Check out our videos on You Tube: <http://www.youtube.com/MaricopaAnimalCare>

Rabies Clinic

Specials: \$20

West and East Shelter:

Sunday 11am — 5:30 pm

West Shelter:

Tues & Thur 9 am — 11am

East Shelter:

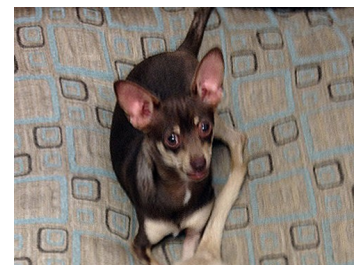
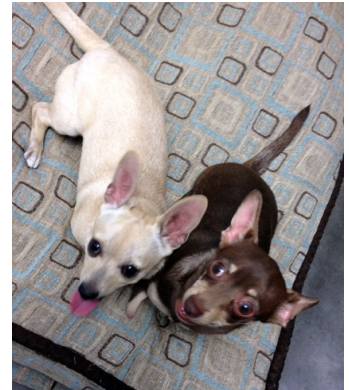
Tues & Wed 9 am—11 am

Chihuahuas Beat the Odds

Tamale and Flauta came to MCACC on July 25th when they were just two weeks old. They were turned in by their owner because they have deformities of the front limbs. The pups went to a foster home where they drank their bottles and soon began hopping all over! Tamale and Flauta were a favorite among staff when they would visit. Flauta (brown) has severe deformity of her right front leg. The upper and lower parts of the leg are fused at a right angle at the elbow with no paw. She doesn't use it to walk, but does put it down for support when she stops. Her left front leg and paw also have deformities, but she is able to use them. The paw and toes are missing many bones and is not completely formed.

Tamale's (tan) deformities are simpler, but more extreme. He just doesn't have any front legs! He has shoulders. He struggled to walk in the beginning because his brain thought there were four little legs. Several different types of carts were tried, but he wanted NOTHING to do with them. We started doing exercises to help him work on his balance. One day his brain figured out how to put it all together and Tamale has been mobile ever since and keeping up with his sister.

They both have come a long way and have been through a lot, both Parvo (an often deadly virus) and kennel cough! Tamale and Flauta made it through many challenges and stayed sweet as can be. They also have proven they are handy-capable! When we finally introduced them to the community, many people stepped up to adopt them. We are happy to announce we found the perfect home for them to live together with their new family.



KEEP MORE MONEY IN YOUR POCKET WHILE HELPING HOMELESS ANIMALS

Daily Deal USA

We are partnering with **Daily Deal USA** to offer a FANTASTIC new fundraiser!

If you sign up for their free program, using our referral code, you'll get daily email offers of HUGE savings of 50-95% from local businesses in your neighborhood, plus an instant \$5 to spend. FREE, with no obligation!

If you do decide to buy a deal, **Maricopa County Animal Care & Control** will get a donation equaling 8% on every deal you purchase.

The more irresistible deals you buy, the more money goes to help the homeless animals of Maricopa County. It's a win-win! You save, we earn.

Just sign up at www.dailydealusa.com and enter referral code MCACC. It's that easy! Please help.

Why I Volunteer — Letters from our Volunteers

Gayle Savo — This month marks my seven-year anniversary volunteering at Maricopa County Animal Care & Control. Years before, I had adopted a dog from the shelter and decided when I had the time to 'give back', I'd give volunteering a try. I started with a four-hour shift every other Saturday. That quickly turned in to eight hours every Saturday.

It seems all volunteers find their niche – doing what they love brings them back. For me, it's the cats. Cats are such amazing creatures and I like to spend time with them before the shelter opens. By getting to know their personality, it's easier to make a good adopter match.

One of my favorite memories is of a gal who came in looking to adopt a kitten. She looked throughout the kennels but didn't see one she was interested in and was about to leave. I asked her why she wanted a kitten and she said, "I want something to love." I said, "So, you want to schmooze with it? Why not consider Adalay?" Adalay was a beautiful, long-haired, two-year-old, petite girl that had been at the shelter a few weeks. But she curled up in her kennel so most people didn't even notice her. I picked her up and placed her in the gal's arms. It was love for both of them and Adalay went home. By just asking a few questions, combined with knowing the cat's personality, made the adoption possible.

Many people visit the shelter to find their lost pet. One day I was talking to a gal who said she knew her dog had been picked up by an MCACC truck but it wasn't there yet; could I notify her when it arrived. I told her I'd keep an eye out. She said there was no mistaking the dog because it looked like a cow (the markings). I got busy and forgot about it; a few hours later I happened to be in the receiving area when a truck pulled in. The officer was preparing to bring the dog out and said, "this one looks like a cow". I said, "I know the owner!" It so happened that the dog was micro-chipped and sure enough, the owner's information was there. I called her and the dog didn't have to spend even a day at the shelter!

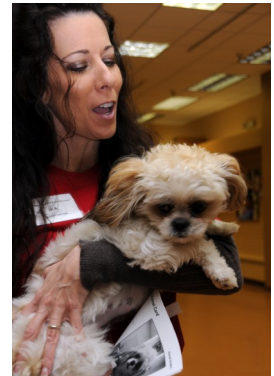
One of the main things we do as volunteers is educate the public about how the system works: when an animal comes in as a stray, the number of days before it goes up for adoption and how the adoption process works, what's included in the adoption fee, etc. For the majority of people I meet, it's their first time visiting the shelter so it's a great opportunity to educate.

Volunteers have many roles; you may be showing an animal to a potential adopter one minute, then answering questions about spaying/neutering, cleaning kennels, exercising dogs, making sure all animals have water and bedding, then cheering when your favorite is leaving for its forever home.

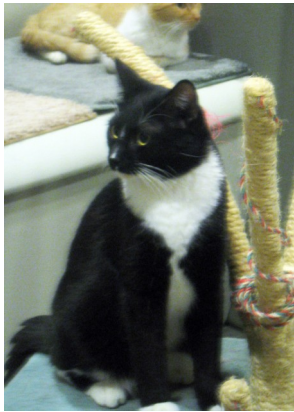
Many visitors to the shelter thank me for volunteering and say, "Oh, I love animals too much, I couldn't volunteer here." To me, that's exactly why I volunteer. Shelter staff doesn't have time to interact with the animals. But as a volunteer – to see a cat that's too frightened to eat, to start talking to it, petting it and to then see that cat come out of its shell, have a bite to eat, and give a few head-butts, well, that's just plain priceless, and that's why I'm there every week. Volunteering is addictive!



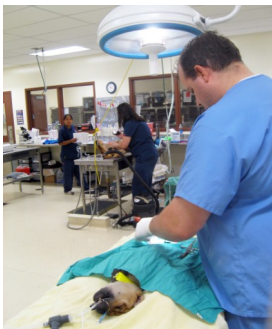
If you'd like to receive this newsletter electronically, please visit us at : pets.maricopa.gov



Have you ever wondered how you can help the homeless animals in Maricopa County? Volunteer at Maricopa County Animal Care & Control! This is a great way to help our furry friends. You can give back in a variety of ways: become an adoption counselor; take pictures for our website; socialize dogs and cats; and more! For additional information about MCACC or the volunteer program, please visit our website at pets.maricopa.gov.



One of the lucky cats to find a new home at MCACC this year.



Help us control the pet homeless problem. Get your pet spayed or neutered!



Save a Life: Foster a Dog or Cat

Maricopa County Animal Care and Control has 120 foster families to help the sick and injured animals in our care. Last year, they saved the lives of 500 cats and 1029 dogs. Sadly, we need more foster families.



Foster care is a temporary placement of our animals in a home so that they can be treated and cared for until they are ready for adoption. We need you to open your heart and home.

As a foster parent you can choose to care for:

- Puppies or kittens who are not yet old enough to be placed up for adoption.
- Dogs or cats who are recovering from illness or medical procedures.
- Dogs or cats who need help with their behavior and socialization.
- Dogs or cats who need a break from the shelter environment.

Fostering requires a commitment of time and energy from all household members to care for and socialize the animals. The love you'll get in return is well worth the work.

Contact us today:

West Valley: 602-372-1158

East Valley: 602-506-6279

"The most rewarding part of my volunteer experience is the sincere gratitude from the loyal, trusting, wonderful dogs at County. Tail wags of affection and appreciation motivate me to continue exercising and socializing the dogs as often as possible. Seeing an animal happily curl up in comfort with a donated blanket gives me peace of mind like few other things can." – Ashley Hafner, Maricopa County Animal Care and Control Volunteer



Ways to Help the Animals

While MCACC was originally founded for the purpose of catching and killing stray animals to prevent the spread of rabies and other diseases, the population growth in Maricopa County has resulted in an ever increasing number of healthy and treatable dogs and cats looking to MCACC to find them homes. As a "special revenue fund" within Maricopa County, MCACC is responsible for generating funds for both its mandated and non-mandated services.

By becoming a donor of your dollars, your time, or by holding a donation drive, you can help ensure that MCACC can provide the care and services that will ultimately make it possible to reach the goal of eliminating the euthanasia of healthy and treatable pets by 2012.

Please send me information about the following

◇ How to Volunteer

◇ How to Donate

◇ Information on: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

____ I would like to receive your email newsletter!

Mail to: MCACC Community Relations

2500 S. 27th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85009

facebook

Like us on facebook!

<http://twitter.com/MCACCaz1>

twitter

Follow us on twitter!

<http://twitter.com/MCACCaz1>

Spay Neuter Assistance Program Making a Difference

Each year millions of animals are euthanized at shelters across the United States. Most of these animals would make a great companion if there were just enough homes. We believe strongly in reducing the pet overpopulation problem and we need the community's help to do it. MCACC is dedicated to increasing the adoption rate at Maricopa County shelters and educating the public on their responsibilities as pet owners. Spaying and neutering is high on our list of priorities.

SNAP, MCACC's Spay Neuter Assistance Program has been helping the community by offering free spay neuter surgeries for the last four years. Working with more than 60 veterinary partners, people can make an appointment with a clinic of their choice. MCACC pays the veterinarian for the surgery. Since the program started in November 2008, MCACC has paid for more than 39,000 surgeries, all with money donated from the community.

To find out how you can take advantage of the program, or to donate, visit:

<http://www.maricopa.gov/Pets/SpayNeuter/Voucher.aspx>

Sally is an intelligent, obedient, 3-year-old Queensland/Heeler mix looking for a forever home! This gentle girl walks politely on the leash, with minimal pulling, and readily accepts direction. In addition to her alert and loving demeanor, she distinguishes herself with a classic Heeler mask over one eye, with coloring reminiscent of the descending Autumn leaves. Please visit her at 4380 N. Miller Road in Scottsdale. (For hours and directions, please visit pets.maricopa.gov). Her ID number is A3127467.



Tune in and catch our animals on TV and the radio!

- Every Saturday on Channel 12 at 9:35 a.m.
- Every other Thursday on Channel 12 at 1:35 p.m.
- Every last Tuesday of the month on KOOL radio 94.5
- You can also find them online at ktar.com

Visit One of Our Four Locations!

West Valley Care Center
2500 S. 27th Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85009

East Valley Care Center
2630 W. 8th St.
Mesa, AZ 85201

PetSmart Charities Adoption Center
4380 N. Miller Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Under One Woof Adoption Center
9617 N. Metro Parkway #1116
Phoenix, AZ 85051

Phone: 602-506-PETS (7387)

hollisa@mail.maricopa.gov

pets.maricopa.gov



MCACC's new approach to delivering animal care and control services reflects the delicate balance that exists between animal welfare and animal control. We strive to be proactive and offer programs to prevent problems before they occur. It is our vision to reduce the dangers and nuisances caused by irresponsible pet ownership and to protect pets from abuse, neglect and homelessness.

Our mission is to promote and protect the health, safety and welfare of people and pets in Maricopa County.

MCACC offers a multitude of services to assist you and your pets:

- Adoption of cats and dogs
- Spay/Neuter programs
- Licensing
- Rabies vaccinations
- Lost and found shelter care
- Stray dog pick up
- Microchips
- Opportunities to volunteer and become foster care givers



Friends of Animal Care and Control

Our mission is to end euthanasia of healthy and adoptable dogs and cats in our community by raising funds to support the special programs of Maricopa County Animal Care and Control.

P.O. Box 80739
Phoenix, AZ 85060

602-626-5073

Visit us at: www.azfaccs.org

Friends of Animal Care and Control Thrift Store

The FACCs thrift shop sells a wide variety of gently used items. Proceeds from the sales fund MCACC's valuable programs.



FACCs Thrift Shop

12625 N. Cave Creek Road (North of Thunderbird)
Phoenix, AZ 85022
602-923-6914

Store hours: Monday-Saturday 10am-4pm
Tuesday and Thursday open until 6:00 pm

Do you love animals? Do you have some items that you'd like to donate to charity? Please donate them to the FACCs thrift shop! The store is currently accepting the following gently used items:

- Clothing, purses, jewelry, shoes
- Dishes, glassware, utensils
- Furniture - indoor and outdoor
- Books
- Tools
- Children's clothing and toys (no furniture or car seats please)
- Household items (lamps, linens, bedspreads)
- Kitchen and office appliances
- Computers, printers, software
- Artwork
- Cell phones, PDA's

FACC's mission is to end euthanasia of healthy and adoptable dogs and cats in our community by raising funds to support the programs of Maricopa County Animal Care and Control.

